

# MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

**MEETING DATE:**

October 15, 2007

**CALL TO PODIUM:**

**Fred Felton**  
**Assistant City Manager**

**RESPONSIBLE STAFF:**

**Fred Felton**  
**Assistant City Manager**

**AGENDA ITEM:**

(please check one)

	Presentation
	Proclamation/Certificate
	Appointment
	Public Hearing
	Historic District
	Consent Item
	Ordinance
<b>X</b>	Resolution
	Policy Discussion
	Work Session Discussion Item
	Other:

**PUBLIC HEARING HISTORY:**

(Please complete this section if agenda item is a public hearing)

Introduced	
Advertised	
Hearing Date	
Record Held Open	
Policy Discussion	

**TITLE:**

Resolution of the Mayor and City Council Requesting That the Maryland Department of Transportation Include an Analysis of the Kentlands Alignment of the Corridor Cities Transitway in the Environmental Assessment of the I-270/US15 Multi-Modal Corridor Study so the Kentlands Alignment Can be Considered When the Locally Preferred Alternative is Selected

**SUPPORTING BACKGROUND:**

For many years, Council Members have discussed the possibility of requesting that the State of Maryland consider modifying the proposed alignment of the Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT) to serve the Kentlands community; however, the City has never taken a formal position on this issue.

In January of 2005, the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) completed a study of four possible transitway re-alignments that would directly serve the Kentlands community. At that time, MTA concluded that "While we agree that a direct Kentlands connection would increase ridership, this would be offset by a decrease in other riders whose travel time would increase. The study also concluded additional costs of the re-alignment options were not warranted based on the benefits."

On March 27, 2007, Mayor Katz, and staff met with Maryland Secretary of Transportation John Porcari, to discuss the potential shift of the CCT to better serve the Kentlands community. During the course of the meeting, City representatives agreed that two potential alignments with the greatest impact should be eliminated from consideration.

Secretary Porcari concurred that the City's concept of examining the two other potential re-alignments during the Kentland Boulevard Special Study Area was appropriate, and agreed to reconsider possible alternative CCT alignments at a future date.

**-Continued-**

**DESIRED OUTCOME:**

**Vote on Resolution.**

# MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

## **Background Continued:**

The CCT is currently part of the ongoing I-270/US 15 Multi Modal Corridor Study. This study is currently in the process of completing an supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA) to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) completed in 2002. MTA staff believes this supplemental EA should be completed in spring 2008.

Upon completion of the supplemental EA, MTA will conduct public workshops and the State will select a Locally Preferred Alternative for the transit project.

As part of the review of the Kentlands Boulevard Commercial Special Study Area, the City conducted a series of educational workshops during the summer/fall of 2007, a statistically valid phone survey, and a five day charrette culminating on October 8, 2007. During the course of the charrette, there was significant public support for an alignment shift. In addition, the phone survey reaffirmed public support for an alignment shift.

The attached Resolution does not formally endorse the Kentlands alignment but requests that MTA include an analysis of the Kentlands alignment of the CCT in the environmental assessment of the I-270/US15 Multi-Modal Corridor Study so the Kentlands alignment can be considered when the Locally Preferred Alternative is selected.

**Attachment:** Letter dated April 5, 2007 from Maryland Department of Transportation Secretary John Porcari

**REVISED**  
RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING THAT THE  
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS OF  
THE KENTLANDS ALIGNMENT OF THE CORRIDOR CITIES TRANSITWAY  
IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF THE I-270/US15 MULTI-MODAL  
CORRIDOR STUDY SO THE KENTLANDS ALIGNMENT CAN BE  
CONSIDERED WHEN THE LOCALLY PREFERRED  
ALTERNATIVE IS SELECTED

WHEREAS, the Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT) is currently part of the ongoing I-270/US 15 Multi-Modal Corridor Study. This study is currently in the process of completing an supplemental Environmental Assessment to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement completed in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Maryland Transit Administration staff believes this supplemental Environmental Assessment should be completed in spring 2008; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Katz and senior staff met with Maryland Secretary of Transportation John Porcari on March 27, 2007 to discuss the CCT. During the course of this meeting, Secretary Porcari concurred that the City's concept of examining potential re-alignments during the Kentlands Boulevard Special Study Area was appropriate, and agreed to reconsider possible alternative CCT alignments at a future date; and

WHEREAS, as part of the review of the Kentlands Boulevard Commercial Special Study Area, the City conducted a series of educational workshops during the summer/fall of 2007, a statistically valid phone survey, and a five day charrette culminating on October 8, 2007. During the course of the charrette, there was significant public support for an alignment shift. In addition, the phone survey reaffirmed public support for an alignment shift; and

WHEREAS, the planning consultant that facilitated the Kentlands Boulevard Commercial Charrette, Hellmuth Obata Kassabaum (HOK), strongly recommended that the CCT alignment be modified to serve the Kentlands community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gaithersburg has recently approved the development of neo-traditional transit oriented town centers along the CCT alignment at both the Crown Farm and the Watkins Mill Town Center, and the opportunity exists to create another transit orientated town center to serve the Kentlands community:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of Gaithersburg, that the Mayor and City Council hereby request that the MTA include an analysis of the Kentlands Alignment of the CCT in the Environmental Assessment of the I-270/US15 Multi-Modal Corridor Study so the Kentlands Alignment can be considered when the locally preferred alternative is selected.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007.

---

SIDNEY A. KATZ, MAYOR and  
President of the Council

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the City Council in public meeting assembled on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007.

---

David B. Humpton, City Manager